

Message Text

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INFO AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL GENOA

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SUBJECT: COMMUNISTS CRITICIZE MONOCLORE BUT ...

1. WITH PREMIER-DESIGNATE MORO'S DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT, THE DIRECTORATE OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE NATION'S POLITICAL CRISIS. THE BASIC THRUST OF THE PCI STATEMENT IS A NEGATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FIVE WEEK OLD CRISIS HAS BEEN RESOLVED.

2. THE PCI STATEMENT STARTS OUT BY STRESSING AN OLD PARTY THEME, TO WIT THAT THE CRISIS HAS SEVERELY DAMAGED THE COUNTRY POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY, AND SOCIALLY. TO THIS, THE DIRECTORATE ADDS THAT THE REVELATIONS OF AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS TO VARIOUS POLITICIANS AND POLITICAL PARTIES SERIOUSLY AGGRAVATED THE SITUATION AND CALL INTO QUESTION ITALY'S NATIONAL DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE.

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3. AFTER EXPRESSING SATISFACTION THAT EARLY ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED (DUE IN LARGE PART TO THE PCI'S FIRM OPPOSITION), THE STATEMENT DESCRIBES THE NEW MORO GOVERNMENT FORMULA AS "WEAK" AND ONE WHICH IS INADEQUATE IN TERMS OF THE GRAVITY AND THE DEPTH OF THE SITUATION CONFRONTING THE COUNTRY. FURTHERMORE, THE PCI DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT A NEW GOVERNMENT COMPOSED ONLY OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS IS HEALTHY FOR THE NATION.

4. NOTING THAT THE ONLY REAL SOLUTION TO THE COUNTRY'S ILLS WOULD BE A GOVERNMENT INCLUDING ALL THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL FORCES (OBVIOUSLY INCLUDING THE PCI), THE DIRECTORATE GOES ON TO ENUMERATE THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS TO WHICH THE NEW GOVERNMENT MUST ADDRESS ITSELF. THESE ARE: UNEMPLOYMENT AND LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO PROTECT EMPLOYMENT, NEW POLICIES FOR THE SOUTH AND THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, THE RECONVERSION OF THE PRODUCTIVE APPARATUS, AND A PROGRAM TO SAVE THE LIRA AND FIGHT INFLATION. FINALLY, THE PCI DIRECTORATE BELIEVES IT INDISPENSIBLE THAT THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES REACH AGREEMENT FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF A NEW ABORTION LAW IN ORDER TO AVOID A NATIONWIDE REFERENDUM ON ABORTION.

5. COMMENT: WHILE THE PCI JUDGEMENT ABOUT THE MORO MONOCOLORE GOVERNMENT IS ESSENTIALLY CRITICAL, THE PICTURE IS NOT ENTIRELY NEGATIVE FROM THE PARTY'S POINT OF VIEW. BOTH THE DIRECTORATE'S STATEMENT AND AN INTERVIEW BY PARTY SECRETARY GIORGIO NAPOLITANO HINT AT THIS. AT THE VERY LEAST, EARLY ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN STAVED OFF FOR THE PRESENT, A LONG TIME OBJECTIVE OF THE PARTY. FURTHERMORE, AS BOTH THE STATEMENT AND NAPOLITANO INDICATE, THE PCI REMAINS PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE WHATEVER IT CAN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THE NATION. NAPOLITANO, STATING THAT THE PCI WILL COMPORT ITSELF TOWARDS THE NEW GOVERNMENT "WITH THE SAME RIGOROUS AND RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE AS TOWARDS THE LAST GOVERNMENT," STRESSES THAT THE PARTY WILL "CONDUCT AN OPPOSITION TO CONTRAST AND TO CONDITION" WITH THE AIM OF INFLUENCING THE FORMATION OF THE ECONOMIC PROGRAM PRESENTED TO THE PARLIAMENT. GIVEN THE WEAKNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE PCI SEES AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE AND EVEN TO EXPAND ON THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IT HAD WITH THE LAST GOVERNMENT ON THE FORMATION OF LEGISLATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRAMS. OF COURSE, THE EXTENT TO WHICH BOTH THE DC AND PCI CAN PURSUE THIS INFORMAL LINE WILL DEPEND TO A GREAT EXTENT ON JUST HOW MUCH OF THIS BEHIND THE SCENES MANEUVERING THE PSI IS PREPARED TO TOLERATE. AS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE, THE PCI HAS AGAIN BEEN LEFT IN A VIRTUALLY NO-LOSE POSITION. VOLPE

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